

HeraldPOST

Serving the communities in U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg



Balancing Act

Soldier-Moms find comfort in Army program designed with them in mind

By Jason L. Austin
HERALD POST STAFF

After the birth of her third child, Sgt. Delores Gordon, said it took her three attempts to pass her Army Physical Fitness Test, with 30 days between each test.

Now, on her fourth pregnancy, Gordon, a schools NCO with the 44th Signal Battalion, is enrolled in the Army's Pregnancy/Postpartum Physical Training Program, a relatively new program designed to keep expectant mothers active and toned, and to get postpartum mothers "back up to speed" so to speak.

Spc. Traci Petaway, 95th Military Police Battalion, said she was a good runner before becoming pregnant. However, in the early stages of her pregnancy she didn't participate in

see **SOLDIER-MOMS** page 6

HEIDELBERG

USAREUR bids farewell to senior enlisted member

By Dave Melancon
USAREUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

U.S. Army Europe's noncommissioned officer corps bid farewell to its top NCO on behalf of the command's 46,000 Soldiers and their families during a farewell retreat ceremony in Heidelberg June 18.

Command Sgt. Maj. Iuniasolua T. Savusa, USAREUR's senior enlisted member since May 2006, was recently selected to serve as the command sergeant major of the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan by former USAREUR commanding general and ISAF commander Gen. David McKiernan.

"In the last two years, more than 19,000 USAREUR Soldiers have trained and deployed in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. Many of those Soldiers are still deployed today," Savusa said. "Some of them I will see very soon, when I get to my new post as the

see **SAVUSA** page 11



Sgt. Daniel Blottenberger

An estimated 2,000 Iraqi citizens wait in line outside the Furat Iraqi Police Training Facility June 17 to start the process of becoming Iraqi police recruits.

18th MPs help recruit 2,000 potential Iraqi police in 4 days

By Sgt. Daniel Blottenberger
18TH MP BRIGADE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CAMP VICTORY, Iraq — As a sandstorm blanketed Baghdad June 17, an estimated 2,000 Iraqi citizens endured the elements to start the process of becoming Iraqi police at the Furat Iraqi Police Training Facility.

Iraqi police officials and Soldiers with the 18th Military Police Brigade, Multi-National Division-Baghdad set up a four-day recruiting drive at the Furat facility to reach a goal of 1,300 new recruits to send to Basic Recruit Training to become Iraqi police.

"A little over 2,000 civilians showed

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HP THURSDAY
June 26, 2008

Speed Read

GATE CLOSURE

The Grasweg (Burger King) entrance to Patrick Henry Village will be closed July 7-8 for the transition to Phase 2 of the access control point construction project. 3

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Heidelberg's Vacation Bible School, held last week, had more than 200 children and 135 volunteers each day. 4



FOURTH OF JULY

Food, fun and fireworks are just around the corner. Find out what's going on in your community. 10

FOOTBALL CAMP



Football players from all over Europe converged in Kaiserslautern over the weekend to gain knowledge and advice from

college and NFL coaches. 17

Defense Details

FIRST FEMALE 4-STAR

President George W. Bush nominated Lt. Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody, new deputy commanding general of Army Materiel Command, for the rank of four-star general and the top slot at AMC. If her nomination is confirmed by the U.S. Senate, Dunwoody will become the first woman in U.S. military history to gain a fourth star. "This nomination only reaffirms what I have known to be true about the military throughout my career ... that the doors continue to open for men and women in uniform," Dunwoody said.

WTU POPULATION

The new assistant surgeon general for warrior care and transition said the number of Soldiers in the 35 Warrior Transition Units around the Army has doubled in the past year. Brig. Gen. Gary H. Cheek, who is also the director of the Warrior Care and Transition Office, said the number of warriors in transition rose from around 6,000 this time last year to the current population of more than 12,000, and that the population continues to rise at a rate of about 900 a month.

Army news: www.army.mil

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COMMAND MESSAGE

Have a safe Fourth of July weekend

Remember: Private fireworks are not allowed on or off installations

By Col. Robert J. Ulises
USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG COMMANDER

In celebration of our nation's independence, U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Soldiers, civilian employees and family members will visit friends, travel, and engage in recreational activities.

Although the Fourth of July is a time of recreation and national pride, we should also be mindful of the hazards and risks that can be associated with this active time of year and take steps to reduce the risk of accidents.

The Fourth of July weekend is historically a time when serious accidents increase significantly. These accidents are often associated with people being inattentive or under the influence of alcohol, not using seat belts/child restraints, driving too fast for road conditions, and driving while fatigued.

In addition, there are many hazards in the home and outdoors related to water sports, swimming, barbecuing, and various other weekend activities. It's important to note that the private use of fireworks on military

installations is prohibited. Personal fireworks are also prohibited off base in German communities. The only time they are allowed is on New Year's; outside of that day, German police will confiscate fireworks from anyone carrying or using them. To celebrate the Fourth of July, community members are encouraged to attend a fireworks display held at the nearest military community.

Commanders and leaders must help our Soldiers, civilian employees and their families identify hazards and reduce the risk of accidents. Em-

phasis should be placed on automobiles, high-risk alcohol consumption, heat injury prevention and water safety. We must all prepare for the upcoming holiday weekend by ensuring our vehicles are in good working order, using seat belts, and never drinking and driving.

Have a happy Fourth of July weekend and ensure the safety of our most valuable resources – our Soldiers, civilian employees and their families.

See page 10 and the MWR Essentials pull-out section for more information on July 4 celebrations.



COMMENTARY

Be aware of pests that can ruin your fun in the sun

By Spc. Joseph Nieves
HEIDELBERG MEDDAC PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

It's summer once again, and that means tank tops, shorts and summer dresses. But before you run out to enjoy the clear skies and warm days, be sure you are prepared for the line-up of pests that could ruin your fun.

The summer brings especially sunny days, but even when there are clouds in the sky, the harmful UV rays still filter through. It is important to wear sun block at all times when you're outside, especially on days at the beach or outdoor pools, since you have much more skin exposed.

The recommended SPF is 45 for a decent amount of sunburn protection, and now you can even find nifty sun block that contains insect repellent.

Speaking of those pesky critters, we're not the only ones who love the summer weather. Bees especially love hanging out during the summer months; the sunshine and heat bringing them out to gather nectar for making honey. Not only can bee stings be painful, but they can also cause anaphylactic shock to those who are allergic to them.

In addition to the bees buzzing around, you may run into hover flies. While they look similar to wasps, they are actually completely harmless.

Insects aren't the only things bugging us in the

summer. Our friend the rabbit, commonly named the "European rabbit," is out in full force. I know some people think they are cute, but be careful. They aren't as safe as they look. The rabbits here are known to carry a disease by the name of Myxomatosis, commonly called myxi.

Myxi causes lumps or puffiness around the head of the rabbits and can progress to conjunctivitis and possibly blindness. Myxi is not contagious to humans, but infected or dead rabbits can cause hygienic issues, so don't let your children play anywhere near them.

Rabbits aren't the only mammal pest you might encounter this summer. Also keep an eye out for a little rodent commonly named the "bank vole." Similar to rats in size and appearance, bank voles have reddish-brown fur with grey patches. They are usually known to inhabit woodland areas, but have recently been spotted in farmland areas.

Urine from an infected vole can cause Hantavirus in humans. Symptoms include fever, chills, malaise, headaches, nausea, abdominal and back pain, respiratory problems such as the ones common in the influenza virus, as well as gastrointestinal problems.

Bank voles are known to contain an especially nasty version of Hantavirus called Puumala virus. The only difference between Puumala and normal Hantavirus is that Puumala can cause internal hemorrhaging and lead to death in rare cases. Keep voles from making a home for themselves in nearby rubbish or debris you may have laying around your home.

Summer is a great time to enjoy your family and travel Europe, so bust out the sunscreen and insect repellent and get going!



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TRICARE benefits: More than inpatient, clinic visit coverage

By Lt. Col Patrick A. Kuntz
HEIDELBERG MEDDAC

TRICARE health care benefits provide a number of options to address the needs of Soldiers and their families.

The Nurse Advice Line, the pharmacy benefit for free over-the-counter medication, and the "Taking Care of Yourself" self-help treatment book help families build a plan flexible enough to quickly and thoroughly address acute illnesses.

The Heidelberg Wellness Center on Nachrichten Kaserne is available to help Soldiers and their family members determine their overall level of wellness.

"Our health care team is focused on eliminating frustrating roadblocks related to our patients' health care experience," said Col. Kyle Campbell, Heidelberg Medical Department Activity commander.

Campbell cites the integration of the NAL into the MEDDAC's central appointment system as one way beneficiaries gain access to the health care system by making just one phone call at any time of the day, every day of the year.

Campbell adds that the NAL provides specially trained registered nurses who will take time to talk to beneficiaries about their health care concerns.

They are sympathetic to each person's particular situation and can be very helpful in advising on the severity of illnesses, especially with conditions such as untreated depression, according to Campbell.

The NAL also provides a complete assessment of symptoms. Then, based on their assessment and the beneficiary's preferences, the nurses determine the safest, most clinically appropriate treatment intervention.

These health care solutions can range from simple self-care treatment at home up to directing patients to the nearest German hospital.

The nurses will also advise if an ambulance is needed, (calling 06221-57-117 directly in an emergency can save valuable time) or personally schedule an appointment at a local military clinic.

All NAL services are available toll free at 0800-825-1600.

An additional option within the TRICARE benefit is located both at the main pharmacy on Nachrichten Kaserne and the satellite pharmacy at the Shopping Center.

Both locations provide a robust list of various types of over-the-counter medications to treat common minor illness such as colds, coughs and sore throat.

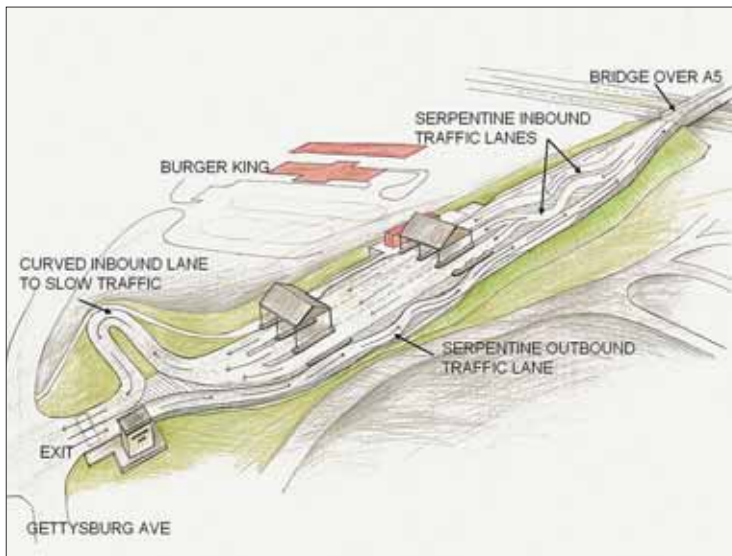
Dr. (Col.) Robert Smith, the MEDDAC deputy commander for clinical services, said over-the-counter medications can be provided to beneficiaries after one of the staff pharmacist reviews the patients' medication history and a screening questionnaire is completed at the pharmacy window.

The "Taking Care of Yourself" self-care books are available through TRICARE at the Heidelberg in-processing center as well as your local TRICARE Service Center.

Campbell stressed the importance of safety when using options to evaluate and treat symptoms.

"The Nurse Advice Line, the Pharmacy Over-the-Counter Program, and the use of the 'Taking Care of Yourself' symptoms guide promotes a very conservative, medically safe approach to evaluating and recommending treatment for your illness," he said.

PHV entrance under construction



Construction is ongoing at the Grasweg (Burger King) access control point on Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg. As part of the transition to Phase 2 of the project, the gate will be closed July 7-8 for vehicle traffic. The project, which started in January, is expected to be complete in November.

Grasweg gate to close for two days during transition

By Jason L. Austin
HERALD POST STAFF

The Grasweg gate, better known as the Burger King gate, at Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg will be closed to vehicular traffic July 7-8, as contractors transition to Phase 2 of the access control point construction.

Phase 1 focused on preparing the south side of the gate to accept inbound traffic, while Phase 2 will involve the construction of three traffic lanes, complete with security control devices and two covered gate houses, among other things.

During the closure, the gate will remain staffed with Pond Security guards to allow pedestrian access to the installation 24/7.

When the gate reopens for business July 9, it will still only accept inbound traffic, with no sign-ins or manual look-ups permitted.

A new search tent will be installed to continue to allow random security searches.

"We're keeping people on their toes," said Lt. Col. Anita Greenlee, director of Emergency Services for U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg.

Temporary barriers will also be used to provide force protection for the community, Greenlee said.

Prior to the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in New York and at the Pentagon, PHV was an open installation with little force protection.

The new ACP

The newly constructed entrance will provide Patrick Henry Village with an ACP that more closely conforms to Department of Defense standards.

"PHV is one of the largest concentrations of Army personnel in Europe," said Robert Eastwood, facilities engineer for USAG Heidelberg's Directorate of Public Works.

Prior to the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in New York and at the Pentagon, Eastwood said PHV was an open installation with little force protection.

After 9/11 the garrison took protective measures to ensure the safety of those with legitimate business on the installation. In doing so, they established ad hoc security measures with water-filled barriers, portable road blocks and temporary guard buildings.

Shortly after Col. Robert J. Ulises took command of the garrison, he reviewed an already existing plan for an improved Grasweg ACP that would increase force protection, safety and traffic flow, Eastwood said. He sought and received Instal-

lation Management Command-Europe approval for the project, which began in late January.

One of the two largest challenges, according to Eastwood, was making the ACP fit into the limited terrain available while still meeting security requirements.

One way to "extend" the length of the ACP was to design a large curved lane between the last gate house and a pop-up gate, which gives the security guards a longer reaction time to deny a threatening vehicle access to the installation.

The other challenge was to build the ACP while also allowing inbound traffic throughout the duration of the construction project. This requirement was established by Ulises to limit disruption to the quality of life of the PHV population caused by traffic backups.

Construction time line

With the transition to Phase 2, the project is scheduled for completion in mid-November, Eastwood said.

"The contractors are doing well to keep to the time line," said Klaus Roth, DPW project manager.

Army turning trash into energy

By Lindy Kyzer
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON – Getting rid of garbage is a problem anywhere, but particularly at forward operating bases in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Pair that with the constant need for fuel and the push for alternative energy sources, and you have the stuff of science fiction – the Tactical Garbage to Energy Refinery, or TGER, which is already turning trash into energy at Camp Victory, Iraq.

Dr. James Valdes, scientific advisor for biotechnology with the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, participated in a blogger's roundtable June 17 to discuss how TGER works and how it could be used in the future.

Valdes and his fellow scientists at RDECOM recently sent two prototypes of the TGER to Camp Victory to put these energy-generating trash disposers to the test.

"Our initial idea was that we could generate fuel in theater," Valdes said. He said fuel has historically been the top "logistical nightmare" for a deployed army.

Seeing an opportunity to use biotechnology to solve a real Army problem set Valdes and his team on the path toward creating a machine that could provide the energy to power the generators and stoves that make up about half of the fuel consumption at most forward operating bases, according to Valdes.

"We've got a lot of garbage at various operating bases, and it's got to go someplace," Valdes said. "So our logic was that at a forward operating base, could we use the garbage to make fuel and thereby get rid of the garbage and help to keep the convoys off the streets? And so that's how TGER got started."

TGER is small enough to fit into a CONEX container, but powerful enough to power a standard 60-kilowatt generator. TGER works by turning the solid trash into fuel pellets which are fed into a down-draft gasifier. The gasifier then heats the pellets, and breaks them down into a synthetic gas composed of simple hydrocarbons that resembles low-grade propane. TGER processes the liquid and food waste into a hydrous ethanol which is blended with the syngas to create usable energy.

It takes TGER just six hours to fully power up, during which time the amount of diesel fed into the machine slowly drops, until the generator is powered by less than one gallon of fuel per hour, as compared to five per hour without TGER.

"And as one might think, the sort of waste stream that goes into TGER is a mixed waste stream: it's paper; it's plastics; it's ammunition papers; it's food-slop garbage. And so getting a really high-quality fuel source out is kind of a problem," Valdes said. "So we decided instead to design a system that would convert the trash into electrical power."

The 90-day test at Camp Victory will help determine future applications for TGER. With temperatures soaring toward 112 degrees and limited infrastructure at the base, it's a formidable testing environment.

"Once we're through with this 90-day testing time, we have to analyze those data, and then we'll do a clean-sheet engineering design," Valdes said.

One of the potential applications Valdes already sees is the potential for TGER to be used in post-Katrina-type scenarios, where energy is scarce but trash is readily available.

Vacation Bible School



Photos by Jason L. Austin



Above: Geneva DeVries leads children in song during Heidelberg's Vacation Bible School held June 16-20 at Patrick Henry Middle School in Heidelberg. The week-long event, whose theme was "Sonforce Kids: Special Agents on a mission for God," averaged more than 200 children and 135 volunteers daily.



Left: Agent Truth, a.k.a. Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David Drukenmiller, Heidelberg Community Chaplain, brings his space ship in for a landing before delivering a mission brief to children attending Heidelberg's Vacation Bible School.

ERMC officer earns Army leadership award

ERMC Public Affairs

An officer in the Europe Regional Medical Command's personnel section received the Lt. Col. Karen L. Wagner Leadership Award from Army Surgeon General Gen. Peter V. Schoomaker at an annual medical conference in San Antonio, Texas, this month.

Lt. Col. Andy Corrow, ERMC's deputy G1 personnel officer, received the award in large part for his work during the 30th Medical Brigade's

reconstitution following a yearlong deployment to Iraq and the brigade's ongoing transformation to becoming a medical deployment support command.

The award was established in 2004 to honor Wagner, a Medical Service Corps health services human resources officer, who was killed Sept. 11, 2001, while performing duties at the Pentagon.

The award is presented annually to recognize outstanding Medical Service Corps human resource officers who

have demonstrated the characteristics of professionalism, integrity, competence and leadership.

"This recognition would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of every civilian, officer, NCO and Soldier in our command," Corrow said.

"This award was presented to me, but it really belongs to them."

The award submission also cited his efforts in conjunction with U.S. Army Europe, Installation Man-

agement Command-Europe and ERMC toward the establishment and manning of four Warrior Transition Unit companies and a WTU battalion headquarters.

"Lt. Col. Corrow's ability to adapt and remain flexible through these most stressful situations is extraordinary, and his dedication to duty is unmatched," said Brig. Gen. Keith W. Gallagher, ERMC commanding general, during a recognition ceremony in the Heidelberg Health Center dining facility June 18.



ERMC Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Andy Corrow reviews personnel data before a briefing to the staff with Capt. David Glen, officer management section, Europe Regional Medical Command.

transforming DARMSTADT

Boy Scouts

Darmstadt's Boy Scouts officially closed their hut in Darmstadt June 13, ending the Boy Scout chapter of Darmstadt's history after 55 years of service in the community. Greg Gonzales and Ivory N. Freeman were the final Eagle Scout honorees from Darmstadt's Troop 65, completing service projects to benefit a local battered woman's shelter and children in Afghanistan, respectively, over the course of six months. Troop 65 will relocate to USAG Wiesbaden beginning this summer, where it will expand the Boy Scout program in the Wiesbaden military community and continue its proud tradition.



GONZALES



FREEMAN

Temporary Closure

Finance Office: closed July 3 for organization day

Self-Help Store: closed July 4-5 and will reopen July 7

Outprocessing, levy briefings

The Central Processing Facility on Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne no longer provides outprocessing briefings. The information packets presented by the briefers are available at the CPF in Bldg. 4029, Room 104 and will be provided to Soldiers needing to outprocess from USAG Darmstadt. Levy briefing will also no longer be given, since the Reassignments Office closed June 20.

Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne Gym

June 27 will be the final day of operation for the Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne Fitness Center. Customers with lockers are asked to make sure their property has been removed before that day. The facility had been originally scheduled to close July 31. The Kelley Barracks Fitness Center will remain open 5:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday, and will be closed Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays. Starting June 27, the Kelley Barracks facility will also be open on USAREUR training holidays.

Commander's Channel

The Command Information Channel will terminate June 30. Information on U.S. Army Garrison Darmstadt events and closures can still be found at online at www.darmstadt.army.mil and on the transformation Web site, in the weekly Herald Post, in the Commander's Transformation Update and on AFN Hessen at 98.7 FM. DSN 348-1600, civ. 06151-69-1600.

Permanent Closures

June 27
Dining Facility (Kelley Barracks); Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne Fitness Center

June 30
Tailor and Dry Cleaning Shop (AAFES); DHR Education Center; CMR (Stars & Stripes); ACAP; Anthony's Pizza (Food Court); Community Bank (Kelley Barracks); Boy Scout Hut; PBO Warehouse; Service Mart (AAFES); Theater (AAFES);

July 1
Arts and Crafts; Auto Crafts; Freedom Field and Memory Field; Retiree Council

July 11
Finance; Outprocessing (DHR Central Processing Facility)

July 15
Customs Office; Legal Center; DOL Central Issue Facility; Barber Shop (Kelley Barracks); 7th JMT TSC and Official Photo Office; Dental Clinic; Driver's Testing; EEO; Medical Clinic; Medical Public Health Nurse; Barber Shop (Kelley Barracks); Vehicle Inspection; Vehicle Registration; Shoppette (Kelley Barracks)

July 18
Bowling Center; Philly Joes Restaurant

Stretching into motherhood



Photos by Jason L. Austin

Women from the Mannheim Pregnancy and Postpartum Physical Training group stretch their calves after a brisk morning walk Monday. The PPPT is a standardized PT program for pregnant Soldiers to make the transition from a combined 15-month pregnancy/postpartum profile to a successful Army Physical Fitness Test.

SOLDIER-MOM

continued from page 1

unit PT, as the Mannheim PPPT program had not started, and she and her unit were unfamiliar with pregnancy fitness.

Now just three months after giving birth, she is working on her run time with the postpartum group in Mannheim.

"They smoke us just like back at my unit," Petaway said after a morning run on Sullivan Barracks in Mannheim Monday.

The mandatory program increases retention rates and Soldier readiness, according to Debra Weeks, health promotion coordinator for U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg, who is starting the program in Heidelberg.

"It gives the Soldiers a safe place to exercise and is healthier for the mother and the baby," Weeks said.

The PPPT is a commander's program, and according to a U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine fact sheet, should be consolidated into one program per installation.

Gordon, who had her first two children while enrolled in a similar program at Fort Hood, Texas, said that the transition back into unit PT was much easier because it kept her in shape.

"I didn't know how to modify the pushup," Gordon said. "There are also ways to work your abs (while pregnant)."

The exercise portion of the program consists of modified exercises with limited repetitions, said Sgt. Isa Villalobos, 95th MP Battalion, who has been certified

"It gives the Soldiers a safe place to exercise and is healthier for the mother and the baby."

-Debra Weeks, Heidelberg Health Promotion Coordinator

in pregnancy fitness and leads the PPPT program in Mannheim.

Villalobos said they also use elastic bands for resistance training, cardio exercises to maintain stamina, and Kegel exercises to tone the pelvic muscles to help the mothers during childbirth.

"It's still hard," said Sgt. 1st Class Lashon Gros, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 5th Signal Command, who is now in the postpartum group. "You have 20 pounds of weight in front of you, and just getting up is challenging."

The program isn't just about PT and keeping Soldiers in shape; it's about helping the expectant mothers prepare for the new child.

"There is an educational piece led by a medical provider each week," Weeks said.

The class topics range from PT plans, to basic child care, local day care options and postpartum birth control options.

"I see it as refresher training," Gordon said. "They teach you little health care things you didn't know," she said referring to the ever-changing research on what is best for children.

Something else, not listed in the Army regulations, which the Mannheim group discovered is that the program serves an unintended function.

"It's not just PT, it's a support group," said Sgt. Miki Williams, 76th Signal Battalion, who is ex-



Pfc. Danielle Liechty, Sgt. Miki Williams and Spc. Tiffany Watts walk on Sullivan Barracks as part of Mannheim's Pregnancy and Postpartum Physical Training group.

pecting her second child.

One Soldier during Monday's session asked the group during post-PT stretching if anyone else was losing more hair than normal. Another Soldier asked the 'veteran' mothers if their husbands would ever look at them the same again. "Oh yea, he will," was the response from another Soldier down the line.

Heidelberg will be hosting the PPPT instructor's training July 8-10 at Patton Gym. Mannheim's next training is July 29-31 at Sullivan Gym.

For more information contact Weeks at DSN 373-5139.

our ARMY around the world

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U.S. Army Sgt. Matt Radcliffe, a military policeman from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, gives a high five to a young Iraqi girl while Spc. Martin watches during a patrol through the Thawra 1 neighborhood of the Sadr City, Iraq, June 16.

U.S. Air Force Tech Sgt. Cohen A. Young



A U.S. Soldier at the Army's Tank-Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center in Warren, Mich., talks about a new piece of equipment to help sweep for improvised explosive devices to Chief of Staff Army Gen. George W. Casey Jr. during a tour of the facility June 17. Casey is shown the various combat systems being tested and developed at TARDEC.

D. Myles Cullen



U.S. Army Sgt. Jake Veith, from the 11th Iraqi Army Military Transition Team, 4th Infantry Division, examines an Iraqi army soldier's shot group on his paper target after firing during weapons training at the Joint Security Station in Rashid, Iraq, June 15.

Spc. Daniel Herrera



Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment entertain the winning Sons of Iraq soccer team of Riyadh with a dance following their 4-1, defeat June 16.

Staff Sgt. Margaret C. Nelson



Soldiers assigned to 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry Regiment, Iowa Army National Guard fill sandbags at a makeshift sandbag-filling station in Burlington, Iowa, for crews working to reinforce a levee protecting more than 100 homes and 50,000 acres of crops from the rising Mississippi River floodwaters June 17.

U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Bill Wiseman

Time to Celebrate

Heidelberg event to feature music, food, fun and, of course, fireworks

Heidelberg MWR Marketing

Heidelberg's annual Fourth of July celebration is almost here, and this year's event promises to be outstanding. Beginning at 4 p.m. and culminating with fireworks around 10:45 p.m., the event will encompass something for everyone in the Patrick Henry Village Park.

Children's activities, to include face painting and games in a Child and Youth Services area, will occur from 4 to 7 p.m. Several inflatable bouncers will line the park's circumference next to the existing playground area.

Canine demonstrations will take place on the soccer field from 5 to 5:30 p.m., as well as a Russian martial arts demonstration, Systema, from 5:30 to 6 p.m.

A disc jockey will provide background music from 4 to 6 p.m. Food will be available from Winger's Grill and Bar, FMWR Food Services and AAFES. For your sweet tooth, ice cream will also be available.

The evening's live entertainment begins with Edison, a long-time performer for the Armed

Forces worldwide in five tours playing remote war zones in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Djibouti, as well as across Europe and the United States.

Featured in "Rolling Stone Magazine," "Billboard" and "ABC World News Tonight," this alternative rock band will play two 45-minute sets between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. For a preview of their music, visit www.myspace.com/edisonnyc.

The commander's welcome remarks, chaplain's invocation, presentation of the colors by RSO and the Heidelberg Boy Scouts, and narration by Mr. David Curran for the salute to the 50 states will begin at 8:30 p.m.

The U.S. Army Europe Band and Chorus will begin their performance at 9 p.m., continuing their musical presentation to the end of the evening with the spectacular finale of synchronized music, fireworks and live cannon fire.

Event details worth noting: No large tents are to be set up in the main fest area; a lost parent and first aid site will be available at the FMWR base tent; and cars parked near the cannon shooting area, which is the soccer field, should have their alarms disabled to avoid activation.

Attention Heidelberg July 4 Celebration Attendees

- To reduce congestion, PHV residents are encouraged to walk to the event area
- Entrance to the installation for the event will occur through both the Grasweg Gate and the Commissary Gate – use the Commissary Gate if you are signing anyone in
- Bags and/or coolers are subject to search by military police at any time
- Pedestrians and cyclists will have their bags searched upon entrance to the installation – so will vehicle traffic at officer discretion
- The main parking area will be on South Gettysburg Avenue behind the elementary school adjacent to the Grasweg Gate area – individuals who do not mind walking may park at the middle school as well in the parking lot area adjacent to the fest area in designated spots only
- Traffic will be blocked from the intersection of North Lexington Avenue and Santiago Drive to facilitate movement of patrons in the area
- Any patron deemed unfit/disorderly at the event will be escorted off the installation or taken to their residence by military police
- Ensure children are supervised at all times
- After the fireworks, vehicle traffic will exit the installation either at the Grasweg Gate, which will be marked by an exit sign, or out the Commissary Gate. At 10 p.m. the Grasweg Gate will become a one-way, exit-only gate. Both lanes leading to the Commissary Gate will be used for exiting traffic. Patrons exiting in the left lane will be required to turn left, and patrons in the right lane will be required to turn right after exiting the installation. Crossing of lanes in cone-marked areas is prohibited.

REMINDER: NO PRIVATE FIREWORKS ALLOWED ON INSTALLATIONS

Fireworks (roman candles, firecrackers and similar pyrotechnics items), except those items required for the military mission, will not be handled, stored or used within the USAG Baden-Württemberg installations, to include Darmstadt, Heidelberg, Kaiserslautern and Mannheim.

Mannheim hosts Summer Fest

Head to Mannheim for fun carnival rides, live entertainment, fireworks, food and beverages, laser shows and much more through July 6.

See R&B band All That starting at 9 p.m. Friday followed by fireworks. If rock is more your style, head to the fest Saturday night to see Cinder Road or July 3 for Half Baked's live performance. Or maybe you are a country fan – Summer Fest has that, too, with the Doug Adkins Band July 6.

A variety of music will be played each day, and fireworks displays are set for Friday and July 4 and 6.

Rides will be set up for the children every day, but July 3 is the designated Family Day for discounted ride tickets.

The German - American Summer Fest 2008 will take place at the Ben Franklin Village Bowling and Top Hat Club parking area.

Fest Hours

Friday: 4 p.m.-1 a.m.

Saturday: 2 p.m.-1 a.m.

Sunday: 2 p.m.-midnight

Monday-Wednesday: 4 p.m.-midnight

July 3: 2 p.m.-midnight

July 4: 4 p.m.-1 a.m.

July 5: 2 p.m.-1 a.m.

July 6: 2 p.m.-midnight

To enter the fest, ID cards will be checked, and backpacks are not allowed.

For more information, call DSN 385-3169, civ. 0621-730-3169, or visit www.mwrgermany.com.

SAVUSA

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command sergeant major of the International Security Assistance Force in Kabul."

During his tenure as USAREUR's top NCO, the command has undergone many unit reflaggings and returns to the United States, base closures, infrastructure changes, deployments and redeployments, he said. USAREUR has provided support to the U.S. European Command and the recently formed African Command, completed numerous theater security cooperation missions and Joint Task Force-East training events, and managed the day-to-day business of taking care of Soldiers.

"It has been an honor to serve as the U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army command sergeant major for the past two years," Savusa told those who attended the ceremony. Well-wishers included U.S. Rep. Eni Fa'aua'a Hunkin Faleomavaega Jr., American Samoa's delegate to the U. S. House of Representatives, Lt. Gen. Gary D. Speer, USAREUR acting commanding general, and Carmen McKiernan, wife of Gen. McKiernan.

"One of the things I have enjoyed most about this position is the time I spend with Soldiers," Savusa said. "I am continuously amazed and astounded by the fervent passion that these Soldiers have for their country, their units and their mission."

Calling his family "the most selfless and the most patriotic family in America," Savusa praised all USAREUR military families for their resiliency and strength.

"It is an unfortunate fact in our business that our families have to become experts at managing the home and caring for the family in the absence of their Soldiers," he said. "Because of our strong spouses, sons and daughters, our Soldiers are able to focus on the success of the mission."

The command sergeant major also praised and thanked his colleagues on the USAREUR staff, its units, the Department of Defense Dependent Schools system, the Installation Management Command-Europe and the citizens of Germany and Italy for their support.

"As I leave you today, I ask that you continue your great contributions that serve not only this military community, but also our outstanding Army and our great nation," he said.

"When selected to come to USAREUR, Command Sgt. Maj. Savusa broke the mold," Speer said during his remarks at the event. "So when he came in with his light (infantry) background, I finally had a Ranger buddy."

Savusa was expected to stay in USAREUR at least another year, Speer continued.

"As Gen. McKiernan started his preparations to go to Afghanistan and he went through the process for his command sergeant major, it is not surprising that he chose to reach out for his right-hand man to join him in NATO's international security force."

Savusa never lost focus on the command's priorities of winning the war against terrorism and taking care of Soldiers, their families and the civilian workforce, Speer said. He frequently visited units in garrison and in Iraq and Afghanistan to assess their readiness and quality of life.

Savusa was instrumental in getting NCOs from partner nations into USAREUR training centers and in establishing an annual Europe-wide conference of senior NCOs, he added.

In recognition of his service to USAREUR, Savusa was awarded the Army's Legion of Merit during the ceremony.

Savusa served two previous tours in Afghanistan. In 2002, he served in Kandahar as command sergeant major for the 101st Airborne Division's Task Force Rakkasan. In 2005, he was assigned to Bagram Airfield as the Combined Joint Task Force 76 command sergeant major.

While no announcement has been made about Savusa's successor, V Corps Command Sgt. Maj. Ralph Beam has been selected to serve as interim USAREUR command sergeant major.



SAVUSA

One last pint



Amy Buerningsturm

Chief Warrant Officer 2 David Murray, a Marine with the 66th Military Intelligence Brigade, donates his pint to save a life at the final Darmstadt Community Blood Drive, sponsored by 66th's Headquarters and Headquarters Company June 19, under the supervision of phlebotomist Staff Sgt. Alyssa Andre. Since November 2006, more than 500 donors in Darmstadt have contributed almost 400 units of whole blood during 66th MI's eight quarterly drives. The Darmstadt donor community also played a major role in helping the Armed Services Blood Bank Center-Europe set a new record for whole blood collections in 2007 with 5,134 units.

18th MPs

continued from page 1

up," said 1st Lt. Christopher Gehri, officer in charge of the Furat facility. "We can process through about 400 recruits a day with a total goal of 1,300 recruits in four days."

The Police Transition Team was ecstatic to see the number of people who braved the storm to become Iraqi police.

"The benefit of having so many people show up today means we have a lot of hope, we see the benefit of so many people showing up despite the sandstorm," Gehri said. "They are trying to get a job and take care of their communities and families."

The new recruits are part of MND-B's plan to expand the Iraqi force.

The increase in police force is intended to strengthen the overall security of Baghdad as part of a continued Iraqi police expansion program. This program is aimed to train more than 25,000 recruits by 2008.

Officials say more than 22,000 police have already been deployed in the Iraqi capital as part of the first phase of expansion.

"We are getting the job done," said Gehri, referring to Iraqi police expansion. "We are providing the amount of Iraqi Security Forces to provide a stable Baghdad, which is our goal."

As the citizens entered the facility perimeter, they

were separated into different groups according to the areas from which they came.

Once through the lines, they put their names on a list and their credentials were checked.

Then they were given an in-processing packet, which includes a literacy test, physical fitness test and medical examination.

Once the steps were completed, their packets were stamped by an Iraqi police official and sent to higher headquarters for background checks.

The recruits then were told when to return for training.

"The Iraqis are collecting the packets and information; they are the ones really making this day successful," Gehri said about the Iraqi-led recruiting operation.

Gehri has been working with Iraqi police in Baghdad for nine months and says he has seen a great improvement in the force since arriving.

"They are taking whatever we teach them and they are running with it," Gehri said. "They are doing a great job."

Staff Sgt. William Lile, squad leader, 223rd Military Police Company, Kentucky National Guard, agrees with Gehri on the improvements in the police and Iraqi way of life since his last deployment.

"It's amazing to see the difference in quality of life improvements for the Iraqi

people," Lile said. "They have electricity, sometimes all day now, water, and they have established a strong infrastructure since the last time I was here."

"They are doing everything they can to rebuild for themselves," Lile said. "We are just providing security in the process."

The MP mission in Iraq is also moving into tactical over watch for the IP, Lile continued.

The mission Lile refers to is the military police mission to assist and mentor the Iraqi force by helping them develop and execute police competencies and operating systems, so Iraq can continue building a capable police force that stands ready to protect and serve the citizens of Iraq.

"This is a totally different mission," said Lile, a veteran of two deployments, who arrived in Iraq a month ago. "We are here in more of a support role for the Iraqi people. Basically, we are just assisting them as they take control of their hometowns."

As day two of the four-day recruiting effort came to a close, another 400 recruits were given orders and began to prepare themselves for BRT, which they will attend in the upcoming months.

"We are succeeding, and we will be successful," Gehri said. "We are America and that is what we do."

GERMAN CUISINE

Learn How to Shop for German Food

Are you curious about local products and food items available on the economy? Visit an organic food store or a typical grocery store accompanied by a registered dietitian who is fluent in the German language.

Introduction to German Cuisine will demonstrate what to look for when food shopping on the economy. Tours are scheduled twice a month, visiting an organic foods store and visiting a typical grocery store.

Both stores have an excellent bakery and meat and cheese counter. We will identify local specialty foods and review the German nutrition facts label; topics discussed depend on the interest of the individual and questions from the group.

Call the Nutrition Care Division at the Heidelberg Hospital to book your free tour, DSN 371-2747, civ. 06221 17 2747.

Building successful suicide prevention

By Heather Robinson
USAG KAISERSLAUTERN

Department of Army civilians and family members in the community offer excellent support to our community and Soldiers. Part of what lends to this experience is the multitude of resources available to help civilians and families through difficult times. Research has shown that when building successful suicide prevention in a community resiliency factors are the key to success.

The Kaiserslautern military community has a well-established network of providers to assist with civilians and families that have concerns about compassion fatigue or other mental illness that could lead to thoughts of suicide.

Research indicates that the presence of resiliency factors can lessen the potential of risk factors to lead to suicidal ideation and behaviors. Once someone is considered at risk, command, schools, families and friends should work to build these factors in and around that person.

These include:

- *Family and command support and cohesion, including good communication;
- *Peer support and close social networks;
- *School and community connectedness;
- *Cultural or religious beliefs that discourage suicide and promote healthy living;
- *Adaptive coping and problem-solving skills, including conflict-resolution;
- *General life satisfaction, good self-esteem, sense of purpose; and
- *Easy access to effective medical and mental health resources.

The U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's Suicide Prevention Team has the answers and has begun to provide them to civilians and family members. Quarterly presentations on suicide are hosted by the garrison's Army Substance Abuse Program Employee Assistance Program and Chaplain's Office.

For more information about presentations and dates, e-mail Heather Robinson at heather.a.robinson1@us.army.mil or visit www.per.hqsareur.army.mil/community-resources to view the community resource guide for this area.



Vicki Johnson is military spouse and a clinical social worker with more than 12 years experience working with families in crisis. To contact Ms. Vicki, e-mail her at dearmsvicki@yahoo.com.

Dear Ms. Vicki,

My husband was deployed April 2. I have been on disability since October; therefore, I am not getting a paycheck, and my disability benefits ended in March. When my husband left, we owed April's rent and now May.

The Army is supposed to pay for the rent, but my husband is taking the money for himself. He canceled our bank account and opened a new one under his name. He sent me a check for \$700 on April 21 and a \$500 check on May 6 knowing that I am here struggling with three children and owing rent and with lots of bills.

I got his bank statements, and the Army deposited \$2,179.79 on April 21; he transferred that money to his savings account. When I told

him that he got the rent money and didn't sent it to us, he told me that if I want the Army to pay me the rent that I should join the Army and that I should be working instead of being home.

He knows I have a serious illness and can't go back to work. What I want to know is if there's a way I can let the Army know what he is doing so I can get the rent money sent directly to me. I will appreciate your help if you can give me some information.

From: Worried

Dear Worried,

Thank you for writing me and for sharing your story. I hope you and the children are doing well under the circumstances. Your husband cannot leave you destitute, and he is obligated to make sure you have housing, food, etc. Especially since you know he is getting money deposited into his account.

I would suggest you speak with the rear detachment commander and let him know what is going on. He will get word to the commander or first sergeant downrange so they can speak to your husband about this issue.

I also think you should contact the Exceptional Family Member Program regarding your illness. If you are eligible, this program

would be a great source of support for you.

Dear Ms. Vicki,

I think our paths may have crossed over the years. As a matter of fact, many of my friends say they know you, too. You husband is in the Army, right? Were you stationed in Alaska back in 2000? I'm sure our sons were in school together and played sports on the same team. My friend says your husband is in the Air Force and you were stationed in England with her in the late '90s. Who's right, Ms. Vicki? Where are you from, or do you say "home is where the Army sends you?"

We're not trying to be too personal, but could you please write back and let me know who's right? From: Trying to Figure You Out

Dear Trying,

Well, I don't think I'm too much to figure out. You are both wrong on some questions. My husband is still active-duty Army. I've never lived in Alaska or England. From 1998-2001 we lived in Hawaii. 2001-2004 I lived in the Washington, D.C., area.

I'm from Dallas, Texas, born and raised there. Most of my family still lives in Dallas i.e. my mother and siblings. Thanks for writing. Next time I'll provide more exciting information.

Ms. Vicki's New Blog

Ms. Vicki's advice column is now being featured in the Washington Times twice a week. In addition, she is hosting a blog, where you can engage in and read daily discussions in the community section's "Talking with Ms. Vicki" at www.washingtontimes.com. Registration is free.

Moving? Start your home search with schools

By Allison Perkins
CINCHHOUSE.COM

When your family searches for a new home in the states, what are your criteria? Three bedrooms? Two baths? If you have kids, don't worry about the house just yet. Start your search with schools.

Experts say that as families PCS or move off base, they should prepare for their move by first checking out the local school system. On-base resources, such as the school liaison office, can help parents navigate the sometimes tricky path of transferring students from state to state.

"We tell people when they shop for a house, they're also buying school," said Emily Grimes, school liaison officer at Fort Bragg, N.C. "Shop for the school first."

While picking a school from hundreds or thousands of miles away can seem daunting, there are Web sites and military-sponsored programs to help families ace the task.

"We recognize that service members and their families make a number of quality of life sacrifices, and the quality of your education should not be a sacrifice you have to make," said Kathy Facon, chief of installations and communities at the educational partnership for the Department of Defense Education Activity.

School liaisons can help parents track down statistics, phone numbers and arrange school visits, among other services. Facon said the Army has already estab-

lished several of these offices around the globe.

Operators at Military One Source also can help parents track down online resources to find out more about the local schools through official state and county sites. Two Web sites the experts suggest parents check are www.greatschools.net and www.schoolquest.com. Both sites post statistics, demographic information and some comparisons to other local schools.

Gerhard Guevarra, school liaison officer at Fort Bragg, says parents need to call the school and ask questions such as: What is the teacher turnover rate? How safe is the school? What are the opportunities for parental involvement at all levels — elementary, middle and high school? Is there an open door policy? How accessible are teachers to parents? How much homework do students have? Are there sidewalks if your child is walking?

In a best-case scenario the family should actually wait to sign that lease or purchase a house until they've visited the school in person. "You wouldn't rent an apartment or buy a car without giving it a test drive first," Guevarra said. "It's the same thing with a school."

An additional help to students and their families is the Army-created Secondary Education Transition Study Memorandum of Agreement. This is a document that 95 percent of school districts serving military bases around the globe have signed to ease the transition for military children.

Travel Advisory

Be cautious if you plan to travel to Austria or Switzerland through June 29 for the Union of European Football Association's Euro 2008 soccer tournament. To ensure the safety of yourself and your family members, remain alert and aware of your surroundings at all times and avoid aggressive individuals or altercations. Due to the heightened security precautions in Germany and the surrounding countries, travelers crossing international borders may encounter checkpoints. Individuals should have their passports in their possession to avoid delays or difficulties in negotiating these checkpoints. The Department of State consular information sheets for Austria and Switzerland as well as updated travel and threat warnings can be found at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1765.html.

GET OUT! area events

June 26

Popular Festival – Head to Bad Wimpfen through July 1 for the biggest popular festival in the lowlands with a large farmer's market and supporting program. Civ. 07063-97200, www.badwimpfen.de.

Fiesta Mexicana – Head to Schwetzingen through June 29 for the eighth annual Fiesta Mexicana, a four-day, open-air party in the square in front of the palace, featuring live bands, a sandy "beach" and palm trees.

Keystone State Boys Choir – See the 60-boy choir from Philadelphia perform at 7:30 p.m. June 26 at the Music and Sing School in Brahmsaal or at 11:30 a.m. June 29 at the St. Bonifatius Kirche in Heidelberg-Weststadt. Admission is free of charge.

June 27

The Ultimate Slooze – Head to the chapel-sponsored community picnic for three crazy days of Slooze, the game where slime and ooze collide. Join this entertaining sports activity that molds kids with every messy moment. Come join in the fun and enjoy wild, wacky and mega messy games that you'll only see on TV. And yes...the world famous slime machine is coming to Heidelberg! Enjoy free food and fun on Mark Twain Village in the housing area next to the chapel 11 a.m.-3 p.m. June 27, and on Patrick Henry Village in the pavilion park behind the library 11 a.m.-3 p.m. June 28 and 5-8 p.m. June 30. DSN 370-1570, civ. 06221-57-1570.

Polo Tournament – Head to Donaueschingen through July 6 for the Fürstberg Cup 2008 held over two weekends in the Royal Fürstberg Palace gardens and featuring six teams from all over Germany. Civ. 07032-71009, www.polo-welt.de.

Courtyard Festival and Museum Nights – Head to Freiburg im Breisgau through June 28 for this festival, held in different courtyards of the town with different events focused on varying time periods. Civ. 0761-201-2111, www.muenstersommer.freiburg.de.

Hut-to-Hut Hiking – Hike through the Bavarian Alps with Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

June 28

Apollo Amateur Talent Show – It's the audience who decides who walks away

with the \$1,000 cash prize at Mannheim's Schuh Theater at 9 p.m. Show tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door.

Wiesbaden Turns Back Time – Enjoy live music from world-renowned artist such as Bill Ramsey with Achim Kueck Quartet, Kicks & Sticks - Landesjugend Jazzorchester Hessen with Madeline Bell, The Jackson Singers, Simon Holliday & Band, Barrehouse Jazzband, Al Copley, Pete York's Blue Swing Five Kartenvorverkauf at 8 p.m. at the Kurhaus. Purchase tickets at USO locations for \$15.

Nürnberg Military History Tour – The former imperial city of Nürnberg was chosen by the leaders of the Nazi party to be the center of their party and propaganda machine. The USO will take you on a tour of what's left of the site where thousands of Third Reich soldiers marched in dress rehearsal and the official documentation center. In the afternoon, you'll see the Palace of Justice where the Nazi elite were tried for their war crimes in November 1945. DSN 385-2082, civ. 0621-730-3468, www.uso.org/rheinneckar.

June 29

Summer Pops Concert – See the U.S. Army Europe Band at 8:30 p.m. in the garden behind the Heidelberg Castle. The band will play a variety of American music including selections from Leonard Bernstein's "West Side Story," the swinging jazz of Glenn Miller, marches by John Phillip Sousa and more. The concert is free and no tickets are required. DSN 379-7834.

Berlin Airlift 60th Anniversary – Head to Wiesbaden Army Airfield for the open house 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Enjoy musical entertainment from Gospel to rock, meet the "chocolate pilot" Gail Halvorsen, see displays of military vehicles and aircraft, and relive the experience of the airlift with a chocolate candy drop. www.usaghesen.eur.army.mil/BA/BA.htm.

Biking on the Rhein – Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

July 4

Ramstein's Rockin' 4th – Head to Ramp 6 on Ramstein Air Base from 2 p.m. until 1 a.m. for food, games, inflation station, contests and live music including Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band. KMC Idol will also be happening again this year, and of course, there will be fireworks.

White Water Rafting – Head to Austria

through July 7 for two rafting trips with Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

Legoland – Visit Legoland with Mannheim Outdoor Recreation. DSN 381-7215, civ. 0621-739-251.

Disney Express – Experience the wonders of the Magic Kingdom, as the characters we have all enjoyed come to life at Disneyland Paris. DSN 385-2082, civ. 0621-730-3468, www.usa.org/rheinneckar.

Late-Night Shopping – Stores in Schwetzingen will be open until 10 p.m. There will also be fireworks, music and a drawing for rebate coupons at the city center.

July 9

Nelly Furtado – Purchase concert tickets through KMC Onstage for the live concert in Wiesbaden. DSN 483-6626, civ. 0631-411-6626.

July 26

Four-Castle Illumination – Get your tickets now for the Warrant Officers' Association four-castle illumination cruise to Neckarsteinach. The boat, "Alt Heidelberg," departs the dock in front of the Heidelberg Stadthalle at 8 p.m. Cost: €25. The event is held in conjunction with the wounded warrior barbecue. DSN 375-5192 or 380-5465.

Ongoing

Antiquity Festival – Through June 27, head to the open-air amphitheater in Trier for a variety of performances. www.antikenfestspiele.de.

Cultural Festival – Head to Ulm through July 5 where more than 70 events are held in and around the big top. Internationally known artists give concerts from the fields of rock, pop, blues and jazz as well as comedy, dance, cabaret and variety. Children's program and beer garden. Civ. 0731-960-8513, www.ulmerzelt.de.

Ludwigsburg Schloss Festival – Through July 27, visit this international festival in the forum in the palace gardens, palace and Schloss Monrepos for concerts, musical theater, drama and dance performances. Civ. 07141-93-9636, www.schlossfestspiele.de.

Les Misérables – See the play based on the novel by Victor Hugo as part of the Wasenwald Festival in Reutlingen through Aug. 23. Civ. 07121-270766, www.naturtheater-reutlingen.de.

coming to THEATERS

GET SMART

(Steve Carell, Anne Hathaway) Maxwell Smart is on a mission to thwart the latest plot for world domination by the evil crime syndicate known as KAOS. When the HQ of U.S. spy agency Control is attacked and the identities of its agents compromised, the chief has no choice but to promote his ever eager analyst Smart. Smart is partnered with the only agent who's identity has not been compromised, Agent 99. Rated PG-13 (rude humor, action violence, language) 99 minutes



THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM



(Jackie Chan, Jet Li) An American teenager who is obsessed with Hong Kong Cinema and Kung-fu classics makes an extraordinary discovery in a Chinatown pawnshop: the legendary stick weapon of the Chinese sage and warriors from martial arts lore on a dangerous quest to free the imprisoned Monkey King. With the lost relic in hand, the teenager unexpectedly finds himself traveling back to ancient China to join a crew of warriors from martial arts lore on a dangerous quest to free the imprisoned Monkey King. Rated PG-13 (martial arts action, violence) 113 minutes

PLAYING THIS WEEK

Heidelberg

June 26 - THE INCREDIBLE HULK (PG-13) 7 p.m.
June 27 - GET SMART (PG-13) 6:30 p.m.; THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.
June 28 - GET SMART (PG-13) 2 p.m.; THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG-13) 5 p.m.; 88 MINUTES (R) 9:30 p.m.
June 29 - GET SMART (PG-13) 2 p.m.; THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG-13) 5 p.m.
June 30 - FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL (R) 7 p.m.
July 1 - GET SMART (PG-13) 7 p.m.
July 2 - THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG-13) 7 p.m.
July 3 - GET SMART (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Mannheim

June 26 - KUNG FU PANDA (PG) 7 p.m.
June 27 - THE INCREDIBLE HULK (PG-13) 7 p.m.; THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG-13) 10 p.m.
June 28 - THE INCREDIBLE HULK (PG-13) 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m.; THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG-13) 7 p.m.; FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL (R) 10 p.m.
June 29 - THE INCREDIBLE HULK (PG-13) 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m.; THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG-13) 7:30 p.m.
June 30 - 88 MINUTES (R) 7 p.m.
July 1 - FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL (R) 7 p.m.
July 2 - THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG-13) 7 p.m.
July 3 - THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG-13) 4:30 p.m.; THE INCREDIBLE HULK (PG-13) 7:30 p.m.

Darmstadt

June 27 - INDIANA JONES AND THE KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL SKULL (PG-13) 7 p.m.
June 28 - 88 MINUTES (R) 7 p.m.
June 29 - THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG-13) 4 p.m.

June 30 - Closing permanently effective this date

Vogelweh

June 26 - STREET KINGS (R) 7 p.m.
June 27 - GET SMART (PG-13) 3:30 p.m., 7 p.m.; FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL (R) 10:30 p.m.
June 28 - GET SMART (PG-13) 11 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m.; THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG-13) 10:30 p.m.
June 29 - GET SMART (PG-13) 11 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m.
June 30 - THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG-13) 7 p.m.

THEATER INFORMATION

Patrick Henry Village, Heidelberg, 06221-27-238
Schuh Theater, Mannheim, 0621-730-1790
Darmstadt, 06151-691790
Galaxy Theater, Vogelweh, 0631-50017

Visit www.aafes.com for updated listings and more movie descriptions



Photos by Ali Leone



By Ali Leone

USAG KAISERSLAUTERN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Looking for a summer getaway? Give Abu Dhabi a try.

Abu Dhabi is the capital of the United Arab Emirates and is the country's second largest city. The big city with small-town charm is located on an island just off the coast in the Persian Gulf.

Visitors to Abu Dhabi can enjoy a variety of activities – from desert safaris to shopping in the Souk. Beach goers can participate in windsurfing, wakeboarding, sailing and more. For the more adventurous, there is even scuba and snorkeling excursions at the small islands that surround Abu Dhabi and dot the main coastline.

After a full day of activities, you can relax with beach-side meals or venture downtown for foods from just about anywhere in the world. Abu Dhabi is a city of blended cultures with a mixed population from countries like the Philippines, India and various European countries.

Shopping downtown is an adventure in itself. Bargain hunters can find great deals on hot-ticket items like brand-name clothing, electronics and more. Just be prepared to haggle. Shop owners take great pleasure in a lively round of bargaining before settling on a price.

If haggling isn't your thing, visit the three-story mall for all the latest fashions. While there, stop by the kid zone and let the children burn some energy on the indoor roller coaster, robotic animals or playing arcade games. You can even hit the slopes for some snow skiing at the indoor ski resort in the mall.

Whatever your vacation dreams, chances are Abu Dhabi has the ability to make them come true.

Hotels, like the Emirates Palace (above), line the beaches of Abu Dhabi, giving vacationers front-row seats to breathtaking views. The Emirates Palace is a luxury hotel designed in the style of the ornate Oriental palaces. It pays homage to the leaders of the United Arab Emirates. While visiting the mall in Abu Dhabi, take some time out to enjoy the kids' play area with the family. Kids can enjoy the exciting roller coaster rides or experience wild animal rides on the robotic animals located in the facility. In addition to fun on dry land, there are a host of water activities available in the Persian Gulf. While walking the corniche or boating, vacationers can enjoy the clear blue waters and a nice view of downtown Abu Dhabi (below).



community HIGHLIGHTS

Learn a Foreign Language - Free!

Soldiers and civilian employees have free access to Rosetta Stone courses for 30 different languages. The self-paced program teaches understanding of the spoken and written language. To enroll, visit www.us.army.mil and click on Self Service, My Education to access Army e-Learning.

Traffic Safety Training Program

The Supervisory Driver's Course is required for military, civilian and local national supervisors of personnel who drive. SDC provides the tools to neutralize the threat of preventable vehicle accidents. For a list of SDC training opportunities in your area, visit www.imcom-europe.army.mil/sites/management/so_atstp.asp.

Motorcycle Safety Instructors

Good riders with clean driving records and good riding and interpersonal skills are needed to teach the basic and experienced rider courses. The next Rider Coach Preparation Course is Aug. 11-22 in Grafenwöhr. Register: www.imcom-europe.army.mil/sites/management/so_atstp.asp. More info: dana.steward@us.army.mil.

NSPS Leadership Training

The Civilian Human Resource Agency-Europe, Human Resource Development Division offers professional development and training opportunities at various locations in Europe. Upcoming courses in the Heidelberg-Mannheim area: July 28-Aug. 8, Planning, Programming, Budget Execution System in Seckenheim and Aug. 18-29, Installation Logistic Management Course in Seckenheim. DSN 375-2063, <http://cpolrhp.belvoir.army.mil/eur/index.htm>.

Professional Development

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local EMPLOYMENT

ACAP Counselor

ACAP is seeking full-time and part-time counselors for the Heidelberg area to provide transition assistance and job assistance counseling. Master's degree required with a minimum of two years of counseling, teaching or training. Applicants must be eligible for individual logistical support and not be considered ordinarily resident. DSN 370-7505, civ. 06221-57-7505, darla.huck@us.army.mil.

Gymnastic Instructor

Kaiserslautern's SKIES Unlimited program is currently seeking a gymnastics instructor. DSN 486-5412, Civ. 06371-86-5412.

Care Providers

Kaiserslautern's Army Community Service seeks care providers for the upcoming Exceptional Family Member Program Summer Camp for children with special needs. Applicants should be willing to work Aug. 4-8 and have a desire to work with special needs children. DSN 493-4110, Civ. 0631-3406-4110.

DARMSTADT

Education

• **Registration at Wiesbaden Schools** – For questions about the registration process, contact the Darmstadt school liaison officer at DSN 348-6105, civ. 06151-69-6105 or the Wiesbaden SLO at DSN 335-5129, civ. 0611-408-0129. If you are assigned to Aukamm housing area: DSN 337-6260, civ. 0611-705-6260.

Community

• **AAFES Fuel Card Activation** – Fuel ration card issue and activation support for USAG Darmstadt will take place at the AAFES retail store on Kelley Barracks during their posted operating hours. These services will continue until the store's planned closing July 15. www.imcom-europe.army.mil/sites/news/fuelcard.asp.
• **Official Mail Distribution Center** – The center on Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne will change its schedule July 3 to 1-4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. The center on the first floor of Bldg. 4001. DSN 348-6345 civ. 06151-69-7410.
• **PCS Briefing** – The Darmstadt Central Processing Facility will conduct a PCS briefing 9-11:30 a.m. July 2. DSN 348-7221, civ. 06151-69-7221.

• **Countdown to Closure** – The Darmstadt Bowling Center will host "Final Farewell, Blow Out BBQ" beginning at 5 p.m. July 18. Join all your friends as we "Go Out In Style" with Dominoes, spades, limbo, three-legged races, sack races, a watermelon-eating contest, music, prizes and more.

• **Official Closure Ceremony** – U.S. Army Garrison Darmstadt will hold its closure ceremony at 10 a.m. Aug. 5 at the flag pole in front of Bldg. 4025 (military police station) on Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne. DSN 348-1600, civ. 06151-69-1600.

KAISERSLAUTERN

Education

• **ACS Classes** – FRG Leader Round Table, June 30, 11:30 a.m.; Smooth Moves for your PCS, June 30, 1 p.m. DSN 493-4203, civ. 0631-3406-4203.

Community

• **Free Tai Chi Day** – People of all ages, especially families, are invited to Upper Donnelly Park, Ramstein Air Force Base, at 8:30 a.m. June 28. Comfortable outdoor clothing is recommended. pejachowski@juno.com.

• **Warrior Preparation Center Change of Command** – Col. James E. Dennis is relinquishing command to Col. Scott E. Manning at 2 p.m. July 2 at the WPC at Einsiedlerhof AS. The WPC is USAFE's Joint Warfighter Operational level training Center of Excellence. It provides operational and tactical level training, exercises

and mission rehearsals for U.S. European Command's senior commanders and battle staffs.

• **American Legion Meeting** – Post GR01 will hold a meeting at 6:30 p.m. July 2 at Bldg. 368 on Rhine Ordnance Barracks. DSN 486-7516, wardtrans@yahoo.com.

• **Amnesty Day** – The 21st Theater Sustainment Command has an Amnesty Day 9 a.m.-3 p.m. July 8 at the Theater Logistics Support Center – Europe/ Ammunition Center Europe, Ammunition Supply Point # 9 at Miesau Army Depot. DSN 481-3525, civ. 06372-842-3525.

• **Java Cafe Grand Opening** – Java Cafe's grand opening celebration in Bldg. 273 on Rhine Ordnance Barracks is at 10 a.m. July 9. Join in the fun for food, beverages and a chance to win prizes. Java Cafe is currently open and includes a drive-up window.

• **Kids' Zone Hours** – The Kids' Zone on Pulaski Barracks has new hours: Wednesday-Friday, 1:30 a.m. -7 p.m.; Saturday, 11:30 a.m. -9 p.m.; and Sunday, 11:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. DSN 493-4125, civ. 0631-3406-4125.

HEIDELBERG

Education

• **ACS Classes** – DSN 370-6883, civ. 06221-57-6883.

• **Graduate Degrees** – The University of Oklahoma at Patton Education Center offers graduate degrees in Human Relations and International Relations. OU's unique intensive course format, on-line courses or independent study courses allow even busy, working adults to pursue a graduate degree program. Fall 2008 registration begins July 1. DSN 373-7919, apheidelberg@ou.edu.

Community

• **Traffic Changes on PHV** – The Grasweg Gate (Burger King) entrance to Patrick Henry Village will be closed July 7-8 for vehicle traffic due to construction and a change in traffic flow. Pedestrian traffic will still be able to enter and exit through the Grasweg Gate. All vehicle traffic will need to use the Commissary Gate to enter PHV. The Grasweg Gate will reopen July 9 with a new traffic pattern and will continue to be an entrance-only gate. This gate is for ID card holders and those with installation access passes only. No sign-in or manual look up is possible.

• **IACS Closure** – The Installation Access Control Office will be closed 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. 30 June for the DES awards ceremony.

• **Community Bank in Germersheim and Schwetzingen** – The mobile bank van will not be available at Schwetzingen/Tompkins Barracks and Germersheim Military Installation June 26-July 4.

• **Volunteers Needed** – The

Artisans' Boutique (behind Popeye's at the Heidelberg PX) is looking for volunteer desk workers. The Artisans' Boutique is part of a Not For Profit organization and all proceeds are returned to the community through the CSA and ACS. Three and six-hour shifts are available Tuesday through Sunday. Civ. 06221-5880448, 0725-398-2000.

• Winger's is Open for Lunch

– Winger's Grill and Bar has new operating hours: 5-10 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday-Sunday.

• **AAFES Concessions** – Cinnamon at the shopping center and Seattle's Best Coffee in the PHV shoppette will close July 5.

• **Women's Equality Day** – The Heidelberg Community EO Working Group needs volunteers to assist with the planning and coordination for the 2008 Women's Equality Day Celebration. DSN 373-7955, civ. 06221-17-7955.

• 1st PERSCOM Inactivation

– After almost 30 years for the unit at Kilbourne Kaserne, an inactivation ceremony and casing of the colors will be held at 4:30 p.m. June 26. DSN 379-7600.

• **Retirement Ceremony** – June 27. Soldiers and civilians (with an approved retirement date) who would like to participate: DSN 373-6334, civ. 06221-17-6332.

• **MTV Protestant Women of the Chapel** – Join the annual Summer Program 9:30 a.m.-noon every Thursday July 3-Aug. 7 at Mark Twain Village Chapel for the "Women of Faith Series." Monday Christian Movie Nights are 6:30-9:30 p.m. June 23-Aug. 18. Child Care is provided for Thursday meetings.

• **POSH Training** – Prevention of Sexual Harassment training will be held 1-3 p.m. July 16 in the Community Training Center on Patton Barracks Sign up: DSN 373-5494.

• **NATO Change of Command** – The U.S. Army NATO Brigade will change leaders at 10 a.m. July 17 on Tompkins Barracks parade field. Col. Donald H. Woolverton will relinquish command to Col. Leah R. Fuller-Friel.

• **Youth Journaling Camp** – Camp A.R.M.Y. Challenge is offering a free camp for teens ages 13-17 on the adventures in writing, which includes journaling and field trips, July 28-Aug. 1. Register by July 11 at the Lion's Den on Patrick Henry Village. DSN 388-9396, civ. 06221-338-9396.

MANNHEIM

Education

• **ACS Classes** – Communication Class, June 27, 9-10 a.m.; Volunteer Orientation, June 30 and July 2; School-age Parenting, July 1, 9-10 a.m.; Toddler Parenting, July 1, 9-10 a.m.; AFTB Level 1, July 1-2,

9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; Out-Processing, July 1, 1-2:45 p.m.; Organization POC, July 3. DSN 385-3101, civ. 0621-730-3101.

• **Free Babysitting Class** – SKIES Unlimited offers free babysitting training for youth ages 13-18 9:30 a.m.-noon July 1 and 8; 8 a.m.-noon July 15 and 17; and 10 a.m.-noon July 22 in Bldg. 238 on Sullivan Barracks. DSN 380-9132, civ. 0621-730-9132.

Community

• **CYS programs** – Youth Sponsorship, June 27; Dragon Fly Quest, July 1; Keystone Club, July 3; Career Launch, July 7; Project Learn, July 8; Ultimate Journey, July 8. All groups meet 4-5 p.m. at the tennis courts located on BFV, Bldg. 725. DSN 385-2923, civ. 0621-730-9633.

• **Winger's and Primo's Express Closure** – Both locations will close temporarily during the German-American Summer Fest. Winger's will be closed June 27-July 6. Primo's Express will be closed June 25-July 7. Both restaurants will have booths in the Summer Fest entertainment tent. The Cove, BFV Bowling Center, Coleman Bowling Center, Al's Sports, and Mike's Pub hours of operation will also be affected; however, the Top Hat will have normal hours of operation. For the hours of operation, visit www.mwgermany.com.

• **Day Just for Kids** – The Mannheim Exceptional Family Member Program will host its annual Day Just for Kids at the German-American Summer Fest grounds from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. July 3. American and German EFMP children will enjoy free carnival rides, food and arts and crafts. DSN 385-3101, civ. 0621-730-3101.

• **CYS Central Registration is Moving** – On July 7, the Child and Youth Services Central Registration Office is moving from Benjamin Franklin Village, Bldg. 742 to Sullivan Barracks, Bldg. 255, room 106. Appointments (9 a.m.-noon) and walk-ins (1-3:45 p.m.) are still honored in Bldg. 742 on July 7; however, services will be limited. Regular hours of operation will resume July 8. Phone numbers at the new location: DSN 385-2750/2353, civ. 0621-730-2750/2353.

• **Youth Services Summer Camp** – YS Summer Camp for middle and high school age kids is ongoing through Aug. 16. The theme is Rollercoast into Careers. Parents can enroll their children weekly; deadline is every Friday at noon prior to the week of enrollment. DSN 385-2923, civ. 0621-730-9633.

• **Summer Reading Program** – Held every Wednesday at 10 a.m. July 2-Aug. 6. This year's theme is "Catch the Reading Bug." Register early for this program. DSN 380-1740, civ. 0621-730-1740.

College coaches add 'future' to football camp

Local employee makes it happen

By Christine June
USAG KAISERSLAUTERN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Almost 100 middle and high school athletes got a taste of college football while their parents saved as much as \$5,000 by attending a youth football camp June 19 through Saturday on Miesau Army Depot.

Sponsored by the Kaiserslautern High School Booster Club, this camp mirrors those held in the United States, said the camp's organizer Roy Bolton, who is the U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's financial readiness program manager. Instruction for individual positions was taught by National Football League and National Collegiate Athletic Association coaches, one from each division.

"Normally for our athletes here in Europe to be seen by college coaches, they need to attend a camp in the states," said Bolton, who added this could cost anywhere from \$3,000 to \$5,000 for the airfare and camp fees.

In the states, it's all about exposure – getting seen by college coaches, said Coach John Shannon, the Marshall University offensive coordinator, who was the camp's director and quarterback instructor.

"If it's just a questionnaire, I have no impression – no feel – for the athlete, but once I've seen him – how he works and responds to coaching – I have an impression of him – his attitude and work habits," Shannon said.

He said "it's tough" to get into a college to play football without a reference from a college coach.

Athletes attending this camp were evaluated by the coaches, who will then complete individual evaluations and keep them on file, Bolton said. When a player applies to a college wanting to play football, athletes can state on the application that they attended this camp and list the coaches' names. College coaches for the university will then contact the camp coaches for their evaluations.

Watching his two sons practicing at the camp,



Photos by Christine June

Col. Brian Canfield, 212th Combat Support Hospital commander, gave a parent's perspective. "It's a great opportunity for the athletes who are over here in (Department of Defense Dependent Schools) Europe to get an opportunity for exposure to college coaches as well as refine some of their talents and skills to play football."

Shannon said this camp gave the players a greater understanding of the game of football. Athletes saw and learned the techniques these coaches teach at the college level. They also learned about proper conditioning and nutrition. And, they even learned agility drills to work on to get ready for the 2008 DoDDS-Europe football season.

Senior-to-be Kyle Ulises, 17, played many positions – mainly as a place-kicker – last year for Heidelberg High School. Bolton said in his opinion, Ulises is the number one kicker in DoDDS-Europe. At the camp, Ulises practiced another one of his positions – that of wide receiver. "Mainly, I've been learning how to refine some techniques – making them better – like coming off the line," said Ulises, who added this camp was an excellent opportunity to get noticed by college coaches.

This is the first year this camp was held in the Kaiserslautern military community, and planning

Left: Defensive players leave the field after the first practice Saturday at the Kaiserslautern High School Booster Club's Youth Football Camp at the fields on Miesau Army Depot.

Below: Linebacker Jess Giles, 16, from Kaiserslautern High School, "steps over" the bag in a drill Friday at the Kaiserslautern High School Booster Club's Youth Football Camp at the sports fields on Miesau Army Depot in Kaiserslautern. For more camp photos, see the Herald Post's photo gallery linked directly from www.bw.eur.army.mil.



for it took a year, said Bolton, who is already working on next year's camp.

On why he spent a year bringing this camp here, Bolton said, "It's all about our athletes."

Junior varsity and varsity football players participating in this camp were from Spain, Italy, The Netherlands, Belgium, England and Germany. One player even traveled all the way from Okinawa, Japan, to attend the camp.

Going for the goal

Andrew Guelle, a 13-year-old Heidelberg Middle School student, prepares to battle for the ball during a friendly soccer match against local Bitburg team SV Konz June 15. Andrew played on the U.S. Youth Soccer Program's Olympic Development Program team during the Region 1 identification camp in Bitburg June 13-15. The U.S. team won 6-1, and Andrew scored three of the six goals. Andrew and eight other players were selected to attend the Region 1 camp in the United States.



Courtesy

staying ACTIVE

Tackle Football

Mannheim Youth Sports and Fitness is introducing tackle football for age categories 10-12 and 13-14. Parents can register their children at the Central Enrollment Registration Office (located at Benjamin Franklin Village, Bldg. 742) through July 11. DSN 385-2684, civ. 0621-730-2700.

Community Run/Walk

Run with the senior mission commander at 6 a.m. July 3 at Rhine Ordnance Barracks, Bldg. 370, Kaiserslautern. DSN 493-4130, civ. 0631-3406-4130.

Summer Camp

Heidelberg CYS Middle School/Teen Program is gearing up for enrollment, which is now open. The program has tons of field trips, games, crafts and swimming. CYS summer sports camps for basketball, soccer and golf are also open for registration. Info: DSN 388-9003, civ. 06221-338-9003; Registration: DSN 388-9240, civ. 06221-338-9241.

Registration for Fall Sports

Register for youth soccer, cheerleading and football (tackle and flag) in Heidelberg. DSN 388-9240, civ. 06221-338-9240.